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[Cover]

OLD COLONY HOUSE, PROVIDENCE

The Colony House in Providence, finished in 1762, served as a meeting place for the General Assembly until the completion of the present State House in 1900, at which time Providence became the sole capital of Rhode Island. The photograph shows the Benefit Street façade of the building, which has not been so greatly altered as the North Main Street exterior. The building now houses the Sixth District Court.

PURCHASE OF LIBRARY BUILDING
OPENS WAY TO MORE EFFECTIVE, POPULAR SOCIETY
IN THE FUTURE

To all members and friends:

Our recent purchase of one of the Providence branch library buildings is a real milestone in the accomplishments of The Rhode Island Historical Society. It gives us elbow room to develop John Brown House to its full potential as a fitting showplace of our state's history and enables us to do more effective library work.

No longer will John Brown House have to act as headquarters, museum, meeting place, and library at the same time, with one function inhibiting another.

No longer will valuable books, documents, and artifacts have to be crowded into rooms where they are difficult to see and use, unfortunately producing an appearance of clutter in the mansion's impressively beautiful rooms.

Now our entire historical library, the foremost in the state, can be moved into modern facilities in our newly acquired building. It can be a much more useful library — open — well-lighted — appealing. And now our John Brown House, relieved of tons of shelving, books, and papers crowding its rooms, can regain its original spaciousness — beauty — charm. We hope to furnish it with really fine eighteenth-century Rhode Island furniture, once the library is moved to the new location. We will be able to bring back some of the choice museum pieces now in storage or on loan.

When we're through, John Brown House will invite more use — more enthusiastic visits by the public and well-deserved attention by the press. It may well become the premier museum house in the United States.

Our staff will be able to operate more effectively, particularly in the matter of cataloging and displaying new materials — with the proper facilities and space in which to work.

The new library building, located three blocks away on the corner of Power and Hope streets, is almost ideally suited for our purposes and will serve admirably until we can build our own library designed for our particular needs adjacent to John Brown House. It will house all our acquisitions for years to come.

We cannot say when we shall be able to move the library to the new building, but we hope that it may be possible to make the transfer by the end of 1964.

History is not static, but its proper preservation and presentation is a dynamic thing. We are confident that our purchase of this building signals the start of bright new accomplishments and popularity for The Rhode Island Historical Society.

Cordially,
GEORGE C. DAVIS, *President*

RHODE ISLAND HISTORY

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THE MIDDLE YEARS OF THE ANTHONY-BRAYTON ALLIANCE OR POLITICS IN THE POST OFFICE, 1874-1880

by MARY NELSON TANNER¹

THE REPUBLICAN PARTY OF RHODE ISLAND, organized in the spring of 1856, included in its membership former Whigs, Free-soilers, anti-Nebraska Democrats, and adherents of the Know-Nothing movement. Among the early party leaders none played a more conspicuous role than Henry B. Anthony, former Whig governor, editor of the *Providence Journal*, and champion of the protective tariff. The General Assembly elected Anthony to the Senate in 1858, and in the years that followed he served as the chief architect of Republican supremacy in Rhode Island.

Anthony was a conservative who upheld Rhode Island's unique political tradition with loyalty, affection, and pride. He regarded the maintenance of the outmoded electoral system imposed by the Constitution of 1842² as essential to the existence of a stable society. The memory of the Dorr Rebellion and the principles for which it stood were anathema to him. His editorials opposing suffrage extension

¹This article is adapted from the author's *The Influence of Immigration on Rhode Island Politics 1865 to 1910* (typed Ph.D. thesis, Radcliffe College, 1954, Chapter 2).

²The Constitution of 1842 provided that citizens owning real estate in the value of \$134 could vote for all civil officers and on all questions. Native-born citizens were exempt from the property qualification if they had lived in the state two years, registered annually, and paid a poll tax of \$1. Registry voters, however, were disqualified from voting for members of the city council in Providence or upon any proposal concerning levying taxes or appropriating money. These requirements, although they do not appear stringent, effectively disfranchised the majority of the urban industrial workers. The constitution further insured conservative domination by assigning to the cities and towns fixed quotas of representation which favored the latter.

and favoring the country towns as the chief repository of political power repeated the same theme for over forty years: that the farmers who had marched to the rescue of the legal government when Dorr made his last effort were the most trustworthy guardians of democracy.³ Anthony's political beliefs reflected the thinking of conservative Rhode Islanders whose attachment to the principles of restricted suffrage and faith in the rural legislator were inherited from colonial days.

The rapid expansion of Rhode Island industry after the Civil War, accompanied as it was by industrial growth, rural decline, and a flood of immigration, gave new significance to Anthony's doctrine. Conservatives believed limited suffrage to be more essential than ever to the maintenance of the prosperity of the manufacturers and to the preservation of order in society. The Republicans, as heirs to both conservative Whig principles and Know-Nothing prejudices, became especially identified with opposition to broadening the electorate.

Anthony was ready to fight hard and, if need be, ruthlessly to maintain Rhode Island's conservative traditions and his own leadership within the Republican party. In 1864 he won re-election to the Senate only after a bitter controversy with Governor James Y. Smith. A former Democrat and immigrant, Thomas Davis, accused the Senator of using "a corps of subterranean friends, ready, adroit, and unscrupulous . . ."⁴ while at the same time appealing to serious-minded citizens in the "cunningly phrased" editorials of the *Journal*. Anthony replied with a dictum relegating his critic "to that class of citizens . . . who came upon us uninvited and upon whose departure there is no restraint."⁵

After the panic of 1873 had completely eliminated the already declining influence of the wartime governor, William Sprague, Anthony was the unquestioned leader of the Republican organization. Supremacy within the party meant supremacy within the state, for the Civil War had shattered the Democrats.

The man who perfected the Republican organization and managed it in the interests of Senator Anthony was Brigadier General

³*The Providence Journal*, October 22, 1842.

⁴Thomas Davis, *Rhode Island Politics and Journalism, a Letter from Thomas Davis to Hon. Henry B. Anthony, U. S. Senator* (Providence, 1866), 23.

⁵*Ibid.*, 33.

Charles R. Brayton, a native of Warwick. Brayton was a member of a family which had lived in Rhode Island since 1643. The young man, who was a student at Brown University when the Civil War began, promptly left college to organize a company for the Third Rhode Island Volunteers. In the army Brayton was known as an excellent disciplinarian, and the soldiers he trained moved onto the field with precision and force. Although he was severe, he was popular with the men because of his bluff, easy manner.⁶ During the war Brayton rose to the rank of colonel, and on March 13, 1865, he was brevetted a brigadier general of volunteers for "faithful and meritorious services." In 1869 he became one of the collectors of internal revenue for Rhode Island and then served as pension agent. When he was appointed postmaster of Providence in 1874 he was one of the leading Republican party workers in the state.⁷

Brayton's system for securing control of the General Assembly was based in part on the judicious purchase of city votes and in part on the cultivation of loyalty in the small towns where money was also used if necessary.⁸ When "Charley" first began his duties, some of the towns like Warwick and Cranston were devoted to Sprague or to the Democratic party. The General's task was to put them into the right column. To do this, he studied their votes, learned the ambitions of their leading citizens, made alliances and deals, and dispensed funds. His annual driving trips through the country districts were a highlight of the year. He knew all the men and most of the women and children.⁹ For six years he managed political campaigns from the post office, even to the extent of having the letter carriers distribute fixed ballots through the mail.

Most Republicans were loyal to their party's principles, but there were those who liked neither Anthony's domination nor Brayton's methods. The "*Journal Ring*" as its opponents called it, did not maintain control of the party organization without a struggle. In

⁶*The Providence Journal*, September 24, 1910.

⁷*The Providence Tribune*, September 23, 1910.

⁸Brayton's early work in the interests of the Anthony machine is described by Sidney Rider who was acquainted with George Danielson, the Senator's associate in the management of the *Journal* from 1863-1884. Sidney Rider, "De Mortuis Nil Nisi Bonum Charles R. Brayton, Dead, 23 September, 1910," *Book Notes*, XXVIII (1911), 91.

⁹*The Providence Journal*, September 24, 1910.

1875 the Republican convention nominated Henry Lippitt, a prominent manufacturer, for governor. He represented a group who were tired of the perpetual office holding of H. B. Anthony. The *Journal* was indignant and attributed Lippitt's nomination to Democratic interlopers seeking the repeal of the Prohibition law which had been passed the previous year.¹⁰ The Anthony faction bolted the party and called on those Republicans who opposed the influence of the liquor men in politics to follow. Anthony was looking toward his fourth term as senator and needed Prohibitionist support.

The Prohibitionists included some of the most socially prominent, well-meaning men in the state. Their desire for reform was sincere, but their vision, narrow. Rightly condemning the influence of the liquor dealers in politics and the resulting corruption of the electorate, they showed little understanding of its cause. Their attitude toward foreigners was illustrated in a speech made at their convention by the Reverend A. J. Woodbury. He said that candidates must be prevented from riding into power on a rum barrel and warned that the country should not be ruled by debauched Germans and ignorant Irishmen.¹¹ Anthony succeeded in dominating the Prohibitionists.

The *Springfield Republican* was amused at the political capers in Rhode Island and stated that while Senator Anthony was off on a junket, his paper "turned up its aristocratic nose" at the Republican ticket. "Suppose this sort of thing ends in electing a Democratic governor of Rhode Island and thus encourages the Southern rebellion and turns the country out of Grant's hands in 1876? Hadn't Senator Anthony better never have been born, or, like the truly good, died young?"¹²

In this confused situation, caused by the personal rivalry between Anthony and Lippitt and the desire of the liquor dealers to replace the prohibitory law with a license system, there were several sets of candidates for the state offices. The regular Republican ticket, headed by Henry Lippitt, the nominee for governor, included the names of three Democrats for the General Assembly from Providence; the Independent (Anthony) Republicans joined the Prohibitionists in

¹⁰*The Providence Journal*, April 3, 1875.

¹¹*The Morning Star* (Providence), March 30, 1875.

¹²*The Providence Evening Press*, April 2, 1875. Item reprinted from the *Springfield Republican*.

nominating state officers; some of the members of the legislature ran as both Independent Republicans and as Prohibitionists; and the Democrats also named a straight ticket. There was no election. The composition of the General Assembly was in doubt, and none of the candidates for governor received a majority. In Providence the only members of the legislature to be chosen were the three who ran as both Democrats and regular Republicans. A second election for assemblymen took place in the city. A battle was fought briefly in the Tenth Ward where four hundred Democrats voted for the Republican nominees and for the repeal of Prohibition, thus ensuring the election of Lippitt in the General Assembly.¹³ One of the representatives elected on the regular Republican, or Lippitt, ticket was Nelson W. Aldrich. As a result of this contest, a license law took the place of prohibition.

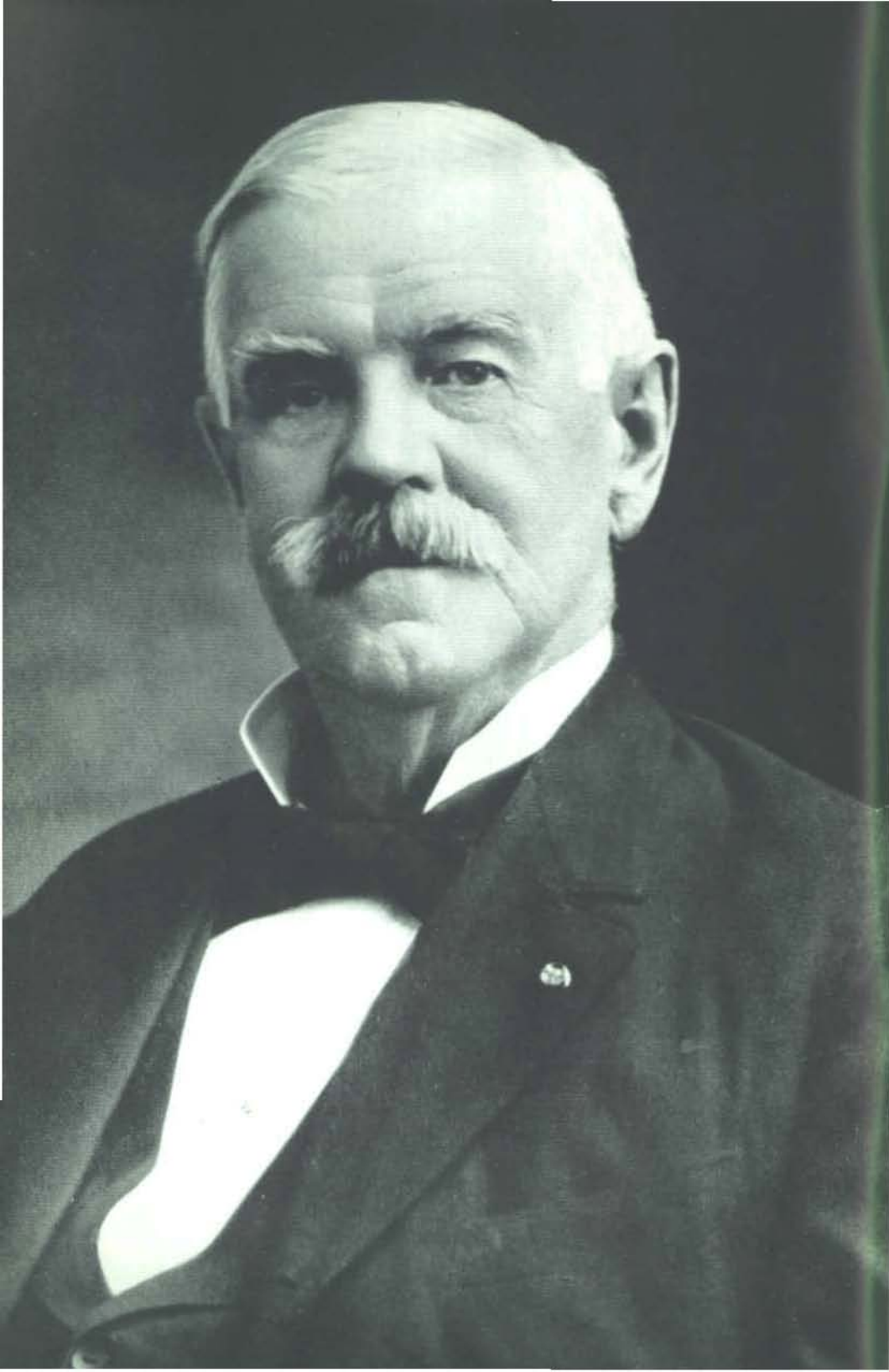
Whatever differences of opinion or rivalries there were among the Republicans, the leaders usually smoothed them over. In a presidential year they all wished Rhode Island's vote to proclaim the strength of Republican sentiment in the state. The national campaign of 1876 promised to be lively, and Senator Anthony was up for re-election. The Republican state convention was held in Providence on March 23, "a harmonious and business-like gathering, springing from primary meetings fairly called, and so far as we have heard, unimpeachable in their conduct."¹⁴ Aldrich was elected chairman and seriously addressed the delegates on national topics emphasizing "the necessity for purity and ability in the standard-bearers of the party, honesty in individuals, honor in the government, and a speedy return to sound currency."¹⁵ The convention renominated Lippitt for governor and elected Charles R. Brayton to the Republican state committee of which he served as chairman. Because of the separate Prohibition ticket, there was again no election for governor, but the General Assembly was safely Republican. With the Lippitt and Anthony factions supporting each other, the senatorial contest resulted in a decisive victory for Anthony. The opposition press remarked that there was a "contemptible abandonment of principle which took place at the first nod of the masters of the situation."¹⁶

¹³*The Providence Journal*, April 7, 1875.

¹⁴*Ibid.*, April 17, 1876.

¹⁵*The Providence Journal*, March 24, 1876.

¹⁶*The Morning Star*, June 16, 1876.



During the summer and autumn the *Journal* gave frequent warning of the calamity that would accompany Democratic victory at the polls. The editor stated that the opposition leaders were not always able to restrain the rank and file from "lawless propensities."¹⁷ To the Republicans who were disgusted with Grantism, the party organ stated that Tilden, the Democratic candidate, was not really a reformer. Campaign speakers reminded native Rhode Islanders that the Irish were his supporters.

Mr. Samuel J. Tilden, a reformer! . . . Here we have Tilden's apostles: John Morissey, the Irish prize fighter with half his nose bitten off, and a man who keeps a gambling Hell in Saratoga—and O'Brien, a man of the lowest character, a man who sprang from the ditch. . . .¹⁸

The people of the state were also to vote on the question of extending the suffrage to foreign-born veterans of the Civil War and on a proposal to repeal the registry tax. The *Journal* told its readers that the Rhode Island tradition had been to secure the "golden mean" in government by restricting the suffrage of the alien, floating population in the cities.¹⁹ Both amendments were defeated. Rhode Island elected two Republican congressmen and gave Hayes a majority of the popular vote.

In his inaugural address President Hayes asserted that there should be no partisan obligations required of government employees. This was an aspect of party policy which did not please Senator Anthony and the federal officials in Rhode Island. The President's statement did encourage those Republicans who deprecated the evils of the spoils system and the domination of the Republican organization by one Senator; his editor, George Danielson; and his political manager, Charles R. Brayton; but circumstances did not favor the implementation of reforms. Those who objected to the abuse of the patronage and deplored the influence of liquor in politics feared that still greater evils would result if disunity brought about loss of Republican control.

In the campaign of 1877 General Brayton completely outmaneuvered the reformers, who were disgusted, but helpless. The Providence postmaster controlled the state convention by seating the

¹⁷*The Providence Journal*, October 13, 1876.

¹⁸*Ibid.*, November 6, 1876.

¹⁹*The Providence Journal*, November 1, 1876.

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From a photograph in R. I. H. S.

BRIGADIER GENERAL CHARLES RAY BRAYTON, 1840-1910

delegates favoring his nominee for governor, Charles Van Zandt. Brayton had reportedly arranged this nomination and that of A. C. Howard for lieutenant governor in a bargain with the Prohibitionists, whereby the latter were promised a majority of representatives from Providence in the General Assembly. The sincere reformers in the party were furious. Representative Dispeau commented that "if a man is an expert in all the devilry known to politics, in Rhode Island he is made chairman of the Republican State Committee instead of being sent to jail."²⁰ Not a few Republicans retired from active participation in the party, and some went so far as to work for the election of the Democratic candidate, J. B. Barnaby.

As an agency for opposing the party in power, the Democratic organization labored under many disadvantages. The majority of the party members were Irish immigrants, who naturally favored the extension of the suffrage. The party management, however, remained in the hands of native Americans. This Yankee group was loath to surrender leadership to the foreign element, and Democrats who lived in the country, like their Republican neighbors, consistently opposed lifting the suffrage restriction. The resulting disharmony was compounded when leaders of the several immigrant factions quarreled: often the leader of one group would sell out to Boss Brayton to defeat his rival. While these factors impaired the capacity of the Democrats for united attack, the party remained vulnerable to barbs identifying it with the evils of the saloon, the kitchen bar, and the late Rebellion. The Democratic press could not match the *Journal* in prestige and authority; the party included few rich men in its membership and had no federal offices to bestow.

With all these disadvantages, the Democrats made the first show of their potential strength in the election of 1877. Their platform favored continuing the license law, extension of the suffrage, and a ten-hour law for the workingman. Their nominee for governor, Jerothmul B. Barnaby, a wealthy merchant, provided the funds to pay the registry taxes of his supporters. When the returns were in, it was found that the cities of Providence and Woonsocket and the town of Warwick had voted for Barnaby but that the Republican state had been rescued by the country towns. The large Democratic vote was the combined result of Barnaby's money, the support of at

²⁰*The Providence Evening Press*, March 30, 1877.

least a part of the liquor interest, and the influence of the retiring governor, Henry Lippitt, who opposed Brayton and Van Zandt.²¹

The Republicans were alarmed at the large vote polled by the opposition and realized that if a wealthy Democrat paid the registry taxes of his supporters, the Grand Old Party could lose. Reformers had long been trying to prevent this system of indirect bribery, which was practiced on both sides, and in 1877 the General Assembly passed a new law which went into effect the next year. It provided that the registry voter must register *in person* annually and pay his tax on or before the second Saturday in January. Since the rank and file of the Democratic party were naturalized citizens, this reform worked to the advantage of the Republicans. In the election of 1878 many of the citizens whom Barnaby's money had qualified to vote the previous year did not appear at the polls.

As soon as the state elections were over, the politicians were busy laying the groundwork for the congressional race. General Brayton usually supported men for public office who had the confidence of the business community. One of these was Nelson W. Aldrich. The young man had served on the Providence Common Council before his election in 1875 to the General Assembly. He was a member of the wholesale grocery firm, Waldron and Wightman, and president of the Board of Trade and of the First National Bank. People admired and respected him as a man of intelligence and ability. He was handsome, genial, and well liked.

There is a tradition about Aldrich's first nomination to Congress. It is said that a former representative of Rhode Island's Eastern District had declined to pay his share of the expense of the preceding campaign, thus breaking a long-standing custom. Brayton looked around for a candidate and selected Aldrich, even though he had been identified with the Lippitt wing of the party rather than with the Anthony-Danielson group. The chief manipulator took Aldrich around to the local bosses and made him known to the party workers. "Just before the convention," said General Brayton, "I told him he'd get all but two of the votes and he might even get those."²² Aldrich won decisively over his Democratic opponent, Thomas Davis.²³

²¹*The Providence Journal*, April 5, 1877. Item reprinted from the *Springfield Republican*.

²²*The Providence Tribune*, April 24, 1910.

²³Thomas Davis had rejoined the Democratic party because of his opposition to the corruption in government during the Grant administration.

The officials selected by the little group who met in the editorial rooms of the *Journal* office were not dishonest in carrying out their responsibilities, and from a businessman's point of view the state was well governed. There was, however, enough opposition to the activity of the machine, and in particular its management of the patronage, to bring a senatorial investigating committee to Rhode Island. Dr. J. B. Greene of Providence wrote to President Hayes charging that the civil service regulations giving preference to qualified veterans were being violated in the Rhode Island customhouse appointments. A second charge was that General Brayton had brought about the dismissal of employees who would not engage in party work.

The Butler Investigating Committee heard testimony on both sides. Although the charge that Anthony had filled the customhouse with his relatives was not sustained, the evidence introduced was ample to prove political favoritism. It was clear that James Shaw, Jr., had been dismissed because he did not make a contribution to election expenses when ordered to do so by General Brayton. Another former employee had also declined to donate the expected amount. He was an adopted citizen and had not influenced other foreign-born voters to support the Republican party. One of the General's political subordinates admitted that his work had consisted of getting a list of all the voters in a certain district and how each was going to vote.²⁴ The testimony against Brayton also revealed his ruthlessness in dismissing certain postal employees, and, for good measure, he was accused of having drinking parties at the post office.

While the charges were being made, Brayton appeared before the committee and presented a letter signed by the acting first assistant postmaster general of the United States, dated at Washington, April 20, 1878. This letter referred to an investigation of the Providence post office by special agents Bigelow and Field, who had concluded that the charges against General Brayton were not sustained by the facts.²⁵

In the course of the Butler investigation, it became apparent that

²⁴*The Providence Journal*, August 16, 1879. A clipping in a scrapbook arranged by Sidney Rider, titled *The Butler Investigation 1879 in to Rhode Island Customs House Management, Brayton, Postmaster and His Defalcation*. In the Rider Collection, John Hay Library, Providence.

²⁵*The Providence Journal*, August 19, 1879. A clipping in Sidney Rider, *The Butler Investigation*.

despite some questionable activity the General had won popularity by extending and improving the postal service. Furthermore, his open flouting of the law had inspired a certain admiration among his followers.

He was active as a soldier . . . he is active as being a square up and down politician; no officer of the state of Rhode Island has his brains . . . he is a man that is very popular, a man that everybody likes—a man that does aboveboard; if he is a friend to you, he is a friend; if he is an enemy, you'll know it.²⁶

The majority report of the committee found conditions in the customhouse in good order but severely criticized the work of General Brayton. The minority statement, however, dismissed the accusations against him as extraneous.²⁷

The editorials of the *Providence Journal* on this subject were written to set the minds of conscientious citizens at rest. The Butler Investigation, it was maintained, could not prove any improper interference in elections on the part of federal employees. After all, the officers from all parties were selected from active politicians. The testimony against the private character of Brayton was not "properly within the scope of the inquiry."²⁸

The year after the Butler Investigation a draft drawn on the Providence post office by the postal department in Washington was dishonored because of lack of funds, the shortage amounting to approximately \$37,000. Brayton immediately resigned as postmaster. Nearly everyone believed that the money had been used for Republican political activity.²⁹ The General left the city for a short time, but within three weeks he reportedly received letters from three of Rhode Island's four members of Congress urging him to return and promising to protect him. According to the *Morning Star*, Danielson

²⁶*The Providence Journal*, August 18, 1879. A clipping in Rider, *The Butler Investigation*.

²⁷United States Congress, Senate, Committee on Civil Service and Retrenchment, *Report No. 303*, 46th Cong., 2nd Sess. (Washington, 1880).

²⁸*The Providence Journal*, August 20, 1879. A clipping in Sidney Rider, *The Butler Investigation*.

²⁹Sidney Rider stated that it was Brayton's scandalous life that caused the defalcation. Rider hated Brayton, and after the latter's death revealed the details of how Brayton had supposedly drugged Rider's brother, Frederick C. Rider, superintendent of the letter carriers, and stolen \$415 in box rents. The morning after being drugged, Frederick committed suicide. Rider, "De Mortuis Nil Nisi Bonum," *Book Notes*, XXVIII (1911), 65-68.

wrote the following to Brayton:

Charley—I am glad to know that you appreciate to some extent the bitter trials of my position, and I desire that you should know how entirely free from bitterness is my feeling towards you. . . . I have been unremitting in efforts to save you in Washington and at home. If your conduct warrants it, I think your bondsmen will respond in time to prevent the penalty we all so much desire to avoid. . . .³⁰

Danielson's good wishes for the ex-postmaster's future were fulfilled almost immediately. A few weeks after Brayton's resignation he was conducting the state canvass for the election of governor and members of the legislature who were to choose a United States Senator.³¹ On April 7, the General was seen manipulating election returns in a back room at the *Journal* office.³²

Brayton's term as postmaster witnessed a strong recovery of Rhode Island industry after the disastrous panic of 1873, a continuing flow of immigration, and a successful defense of the political power of the native-born, propertied class. The practical work of maintaining their power was supervised by Charles R. Brayton, whose agents were the country lawmakers. Even so outstanding a congressman as Aldrich could not ignore the man who controlled the General Assembly. Republicans who favored their party's principles but deplored Brayton's politics were unable or unwilling to reform the situation: the manufacturers of the time were convinced that the supremacy of the Grand Old Party, champion of the protective tariff, was essential for industrial prosperity; Yankee Protestants feared the consequences of government by immigrant Catholics; and the country towns, jealous and suspicious of the larger cities teeming with propertyless laborers, opposed any change that would deprive them of their power in the General Assembly. Anthony and Brayton were thus able to defy social and economic change and to utilize the conservative Rhode Island political tradition to secure the triumph of a Republican oligarchy.

A perceptive observer of the scene in 1880 would have regarded the outlook for a progressive Republican party in the state as remote. However, he would undoubtedly have conceded that for those it represented, the Anthony-Brayton alliance was indeed an effective instrument of political power.

³⁰*The Morning Star*, May 31, 1886. This was after Danielson's death.

³¹*The Sunday Telegram*, March 7, 1880.

³²Rider, *loc. cit.*, 59.



NINETEENTH CENTURY CHINA TRADE PORCELAIN

THE POTTERY AND PORCELAIN CLUB assisted in collecting from its members, from descendants of Edward Carrington, as well as from the collections of The Rhode Island Historical Society and the Rhode Island School of Design, about seventy-five examples of nineteenth century China Trade porcelain for exhibition during March and April. Displayed were blue wares of Nanking, Canton, and Fitzhugh design (in green as well as blue); floret wares like those originated in the West, but made for foreign trade by the Chinese, similar to English Lowestoft—and scattered flowers of Meissen, Germany; special commemorative wares, and helmet pitcher and goblet showing the eagle from the United States seal; sepia scene variants; pseudo-armorial; celadon wares in soft gray-green; late *famille rose* and *famille verte* variants in rose medallion and mandarin; five-color wares in butterfly patterns with vintage, bird-and-flower, fretted square, bell-and-desk borders; butterfly and leaf pattern in *rouge-de-fer*; India flower; and Imari—these in a pleasing variety of shapes on plates, cups and saucers, teapots, ewers, bowls, mantel garnitures, arranged dramatically against the velvet background of the exhibition cases.

Illustrated above, beside the covered cider jug with Masonic emblems, is a celadon carafe with design in blue over its gray-green ground color, on the right, and on the left one of a pair of large vases decorated with historical and literary characters.

It was a gay and colorful exhibition, enjoyed by many visitors.

HARRIET A. F. CLAFLIN



SCRIMSHAW EXHIBITION

AN UNUSUALLY FINE EXHIBITION of scrimshaw was held from May 1 to 17 in observance of Rhode Island Heritage Week, which had for its theme *Ships, Sailors, and Seaports*.

President John F. Kennedy lent seven pieces, one commemorating his war experience when his PT 109 was run down by a Japanese destroyer. Surrounding the center whale tooth in the picture above are four from his collection. Mr. William G. Farley of Esmond lent a pair of walrus tusks (not in the picture) artistically incised with the likenesses of Generals Sherman and Sheridan. Mrs. Clarkson A. Collins, Jr., contributed to the exhibition a whale tooth engraved with Napoleon's tomb on one side (center tooth above) with a patriotic motif and two ships on the other. Shown on the right is a busk lent, along with other items, by Mr. Stuart C. Sherman, and in the foreground is another busk showing a volcano in action, one of the many pieces from the collection of Mr. Bradford F. Swan. Mr. Alan V. Young lent two small jawbones pictured above at the extreme right and left. One depicts Scotland's thistle; the other, England's rose. Over fifty items were displayed.

CLIFFORD P. MONAHON

THE CARRINGTON ROOM

WHEN THE CARRINGTON COLLECTION COMMITTEE, composed of representatives of The Rhode Island Historical Society and the Providence Preservation Society acquired a large part of the contents of Carrington House, it was with the expressed purpose of preserving the unique character of the historic mansion for the public. This end has in part been accomplished by the furnishing of a room on the ground floor of John Brown House with material from the Carrington Collection.

In the attic of the Carrington House were found two unused panels of the richly colored peacock wallpaper hand painted in China for Edward Carrington, the remainder of that which is on the walls of the southeast parlor. These panels were placed on either side of a window hung with blue satin draperies.

The furniture, a combination of both Chinese and early nineteenth century American, faithfully re-creates the original atmosphere. Included are the probably unique wicker and bamboo easy chair with a sliding footrest, presented to Carrington by the leading Hong merchant, Houqua, a portrait of whom hangs on the wall; tables and chairs made of teak and marble; an unusual round marble-topped table inlaid with brass; a lady's lacquered secretary desk in black and gold; porcelain and lacquered boxes; and paintings on glass by Chinese artists. There are two mandarin figures dressed in silk robes embroidered with gold thread. The lady wears an ornate jeweled metal headdress.

This permanent exhibition was planned and installed by Mr. Graham Teller, head of the department of art at Pine Manor Junior College.

An accompanying exhibit arranged for the summer months by Mr. Nino Scotti represents General Edward Carrington's counting-house. Here may be seen the tools of the merchants' far-flung trade, the great desk and document file stuffed with neatly wrapped bundles of papers just as they were more than a century ago, day-books, ledgers, letter books, logs, charts, and prices current from all parts of the world. On desks and tables lie samples of textiles from Europe and the Far East, nautical instruments and globes. A compartment in the desk holds glasses and bottles of liquor with which Carrington entertained his supercargoes and ship captains.

CLARKSON A. COLLINS, 3RD



THE CARRINGTON ROOM AT THE JOHN BROWN HOUSE

Providence Journal-Bulletin photograph

JOHN SMITH, THE MILLER, OF PROVIDENCE,
RHODE ISLAND

SOME OF HIS DESCENDANTS

by CHARLES WILLIAM FARNHAM

[continued from April, 1963, p. 58]

41 JOSEPH⁵ SMITH (*Jeremiah,⁴ Joseph,³ John,² John¹*). His birth date was not recorded. He lived in North Providence and had died by 27 May 1782, at which time his son Esek appeared to take guardianship of his brother Jeremiah and sister Sarah, both minors.³¹⁶ Joseph's wife was Abigail, whose parentage has not been learned. She was living in June 1793 when she yielded her dower rights in the deed of her son Esek, then of Foster, Rhode Island, her son Jeremiah of North Providence, and her daughter Sarah Smith of Foster to Thomas Burges of Killingly, Connecticut.³¹⁷

Proof of the family relationship is found in a Providence deed of 28 April 1759 in which Joseph Smith of Providence sold to George Taylor, Providence schoolmaster, his homestead farm then in occupation of Uriah Thayer of Providence, bounded partly on land he had recently sold to his brother Jeremiah Smith, with a woodland tract partly in Smithfield and partly in Providence. "The two tracts contain the whole specified in two deeds, one from William Edmonds, blacksmith, to Joseph Smith, cooper (his uncle), 12 Dec. 1724; the other from my grandfather, Joseph Smith, to my father, Jeremiah Smith, dated 25 Oct. 1742, exclusive of about twelve acres of woodland I sold to Edward Smith (a cousin) and about forty acres of homestead I conveyed to my brother, Jeremiah Smith." Joseph's wife Abigail yielded her dower rights.³¹⁸

Joseph Olney, Jr. was named guardian for Joseph 2 Feb. 1762 when the Providence Town Council was told he was unable to manage his affairs and was likely to bring his family to want.³¹⁹ Abigail signed off her rights when Joseph Olney, Jr., authorized to sell Joseph's property at public vendue, transferred Joseph's homestead farm of one hundred forty acres to Daniel Jenckes of Providence and his son John Jenckes, merchant.³²⁰ The Providence Town Council on 16 Aug. 1779 ordered a search of files for the bond of Capt. Joseph Olney for guar-

³¹⁶North Providence Probate, Book A, p. 232. ³¹⁷Glocester Deeds, 13:27.

³¹⁸Providence Deeds, 17:256. ³¹⁹Providence Town Council, 4:228.

dianship of the estate of Joseph Smith, adding that it was now necessary for the accounts of guardianship to be settled and adjusted between the parties, all of whom lived in North Providence.³²¹

The Revolutionary War service of Joseph Smith, on record at the State Archives, Rhode Island State House, gives the information that he enlisted 8 Feb. 1781 for a term of three years and died 29 Dec. 1781. A notation is made that Joseph was a soldier in the Rhode Island Continental Battalion and that a certificate was given for a sum due his heirs with interest, with a receipt filed by Esek Smith, administrator of Joseph's personal estate.

CHILDREN OF JOSEPH⁵ AND ABIGAIL SMITH:

84 I ESEK⁶ SMITH, born 16 Oct. 1758; married 1 Feb. 1781 in Scituate, Rhode Island, Amie Hopkins of Zebedee Hopkins of Scituate;³²² married (2) Mary —; moved from North Providence to the part of Scituate that later became Foster; died 22 June 1840 at his home in Newark, Caledonia County, Vermont.

Two deeds for Esek are found in Foster, one dated 21 June 1793 in which Esek and his sister Sarah of Foster sold nine acres to Daniel Mathewson of Smithfield, with Mary, wife of Esek, and Abigail, his mother, yielding rights. The other, previously mentioned, was on 29 June 1793 in which Esek of Foster, Jeremiah of North Providence, and Sarah, single woman, of Foster sold Lot 62 in Glocester to Thomas Burges of Killingly, Connecticut, on the southeasterly part of Killingly Pond on the line between Rhode Island and Connecticut. Mary, wife of Esek; Anne, wife of Jeremiah; and Abigail, mother of Esek, signed off rights.³²³

A digest of Esek's application for a pension on his Revolutionary War service on record in Pension Book 64 at the Rhode Island State Archives notes that he was of North Providence and in his seventeenth year when he enlisted about 1775, soon after the Battle of Lexington, serving with the 14th regiment, Col. Israel Angell.

CHILDREN OF ESEK AND AMIE (HOPKINS) SMITH,
recorded in North Providence:³²⁴

1 ZILPHA⁷ SMITH born 3 June 1781.

³²⁰Providence Deeds, 17:256. ³²¹Providence Town Council, 5:152.

³²²Arnold, *op. cit.*, Scituate Marriages, 3:28. ³²³Glocester Deeds, 13:27.

³²⁴Arnold, *op. cit.*, North Providence Births, 2:51.

2 LYDIA⁷ SMITH born 30 May 1784.

The will of Zebedee Hopkins who died in Foster, Rhode Island, 20 April 1797 mentions two granddaughters, daughters of Esek Smith and his daughter, Amie Smith, deceased.³²⁵

II RUTH⁶ SMITH, born North Providence 17 June 1760. Proof of her marriage to Benjamin Pain of Johnston is found in a suit in the December 1787 term of the Court of Inferior Pleas, Providence, by Esek Smith, Jeremiah Smith and Sarah Smith against Peter Taft of Smithfield for possession of a twenty-acre tract in Smithfield. Papers in the case mention that the tract in question was owned by Joseph Smith, deceased, until his death, whereupon the land descended to Ruth Pain, sister of Esek and the other plaintiffs, until 1 April 1783 when Mary Taft and her husband Peter sold the land to Esek Smith, only to seize the property a month later. In the June 1791 term of the same court Benjamin Pain of Johnston and wife Ruth sued Esek Smith over a promissory note and referred in the papers to one fifth of the estate of Joseph Smith, deceased. Since there are but four children of Joseph and Abigail Smith on record, it might be that Mary, wife of Peter Taft, was another daughter. No children for Benjamin and Ruth Pain are on record, nor has issue been found for Peter and Mary Taft.

85 III JEREMIAH⁶ SMITH, born North Providence 8 Oct. 1765. His wife was Anne — and he was living in North Providence when he and Anne signed with Esek and his sister Sarah for transfer of land to Thomas Burges of Killingly, Connecticut, in 1793. There were a number of Jeremiah Smiths in North Providence and Smithfield, but none readily identified as this Jeremiah.

IV SARAH⁶ SMITH, born in North Providence 22 Jan. 1769. She was unmarried and living in Foster, probably with her brother Esek, when she signed the above-mentioned deed.

V MARY⁶ SMITH, no birth recorded. No firm proof has been found, but the court action mentioned above raises the possibility that she was the child of Joseph and Abigail and had married Peter Taft of Smithfield.

42 JEREMIAH⁷ SMITH (*Jeremiah*,⁴ *Joseph*,³ *John*,² *John*¹). Proof of his identity as son of Jeremiah⁴ and brother of Joseph⁵ was offered

³²⁵Foster Probate.

in the Providence deed of 28 April 1759 mentioned in the section devoted to Joseph.⁵ (See page 82.) Apparently he was twice married, first to Mary — and second to Meraba, daughter of David Burlingame of Gloucester.

A Providence deed of 20 July 1764 records the sale by Jeremiah of Providence of a tract of twenty acres which he bought of his brother Joseph, comprising the easterly part of the farm which belonged to his grandfather, Joseph Smith, deceased, of Providence. It abutted West River, the land of Thomas Whipple and the old farm of Elisha Brown. His wife Mary yielded her dower rights.³²⁶ The marriage of a Jeremiah Smith of Providence and Mary Thayer 30 Nov. 1761 appears in Mendon, Massachusetts marriage records.

Gloucester deeds record the release on 13 Dec. 1769 to Benedict and David Burlingame Jr. of Gloucester of a part of a legacy from David Burlingame Sr., deceased, to his daughter Meraba Smith, wife of Jeremiah.³²⁷ Her father died in Gloucester 15 March 1755, and the will of his widow Mary proved in Gloucester 3 Nov. 1794 mentioned her daughter, Meraba Smith.³²⁸ The latter's birth was recorded in Gloucester 5 May 1739.³²⁹

Smithfield deeds include sale on 29 June 1768 to Peter Tift of his homestead of sixty-four acres purchased from John Smith to Asa Kimball of Gloucester;³³⁰ sale of twenty acres on 8 Sept. 1772 of land he had purchased from Peter Tift,³³¹ and a mortgage deed 29 May 1784 to Asa Kimball of one hundred fourteen acres he bought of Aaron Logee, "the whole of the farm where I dwell except for burial ground."³³² In each deed Meraba, wife of Jeremiah, signed off her rights.

Quite likely Jeremiah had issue, but none was recorded. There were several Jeremiah Smiths in Smithfield, but further research would be required to establish their identities. *The Providence Gazette* of 17 Sept. 1818 records the death of a Jeremiah Smith of Smithfield in his eighty-fifth year.

43 BENJAMIN⁵ SMITH (*John*,⁴ *Benjamin*,³ *John*,² *John*¹), b. 8 Sept. 1719 in Gloucester;³³³ married 7 or 26 Nov. 1738 Mary Winsor of Smithfield, Thomas Sayles, justice, officiating.³³⁴ Mary was b. 18 Dec.

³²⁶Providence Deeds, 18:90.

³²⁷Gloucester Deeds, 8:443.

³²⁸Gloucester Probate, 2:246.

³²⁹Arnold, *op. cit.*, Gloucester Births, 3:48.

³³⁰Smithfield Deeds, 6:192.

³³¹*Ibid.*, 6:341.

³³²*Ibid.*, 7:436.

³³³Arnold, *op. cit.*, Gloucester Births, 3:60.

³³⁴Arnold, *op. cit.*, Smithfield Marriages, 3:67.

1718, the daughter of the Rev. Joshua and Mary (Barker) Winsor of Smithfield.³³⁵ Benjamin died 8 June 1764, and his death notice in *The Providence Gazette* identifies him as Representative from the Town of Gloucester.³³⁶

Births of the first three children, JOHN, SUSANNA and MARY, are recorded in Gloucester births for Benjamin and "Mercy,"³³⁷ but this would appear to be a recording error since the first child was born in 1740, two years after the marriage of Benjamin and Mary Winsor, and Gloucester probate for Benjamin names his widow as Mary Smith.

Benjamin's father deeded to him fourteen acres of land in Gloucester adjoining Daniel Mathewson on 15 April 1747.³³⁸ Transfer to Benjamin by his father of a quarter right on the east side of the Seven Mile Line, in the original right of John Smith, Jameco, is also recorded 17 Aug. 1752.³³⁹

Benjamin died intestate, and the appointment of the widow Mary and son John as co-administrators was approved by the Gloucester probate court. Samuel Winsor and Rufus Smith took the inventory for the large personal estate. Distribution of the estate in 1766/7 by the son John and widow Mary identifies the other heirs: Mary, wife of John Aldrich of Smithfield; son Benjamin Jr.; son Daniel; daughter Alice, wife of James Aldrich of Smithfield; and Chrysla (Christina) Smith. Another daughter, Susanna, who was the first wife of Seth Hunt, may not have been living in 1766, for she was not mentioned in the distribution.

The will of Mary Smith, widow of Benjamin, probated 30 April 1803 in Gloucester, gave to surviving sons John and Daniel twelve shillings each; to grandson Artemas Smith, son of Benjamin Jr., deceased, twelve shillings; to grandson Welcome Aldrich, son of John Aldrich, twelve shillings; bequests to daughters Alice Aldrich and Cresey Smith, and to granddaughter Amarancy Aldrich. Sons John and Daniel were executors.³⁴⁰

CHILDREN OF BENJAMIN AND MARY (WINSOR) SMITH: ●

86 I JOHN⁶ SMITH, born 14 Feb. 1740; *The Providence Gazette* of 31 March 1798 reports the death of John Smith, Esq., son of Benjamin, at Gloucester in his fifty-ninth year.³⁴¹ His wife was Sarah —, who had signed a deed in 1796 but who is not mentioned in John's will.

³³⁵*Ibid.*, 3:122. ³³⁶Arnold, *op. cit.*, 14:277. ³³⁷*Ibid.*, Gloucester Births, 3:61.

³³⁸Gloucester Deeds, 3:144. ³³⁹*Ibid.*, 5:118. ³⁴⁰Gloucester Probate, 3:151.

John Smith, son of Benjamin, of Gloucester quitclaimed to his son Eber about thirty acres, part of the homestead where John lived, abutting Artemas Smith's line and a little northerly from the place where Lydia Smith lived, excepting the burial place. His wife Sarah signed the conveyance made 13 April 1797.³⁴²

John deeded to his son Samuel land in Gloucester which he had purchased from Daniel Page of Gloucester. The heirs of Daniel Page brought suit for possession of the land in the Court of Inferior Pleas, Providence, where a settlement was reached. On 28 Oct. 1797 Mary (Page) Blanchard, then of Gloucester and widow of Joseph Blanchard, late of Susquehanna, quitclaimed all rights to Samuel Smith on the sixty-acre farm where Samuel was living.³⁴³ A similar quitclaim from Elisha Killey of Smithfield to John Smith, son of Benjamin, and from Elisha to Samuel Smith was placed on record 14 March 1798.³⁴⁴ From the landmarks mentioned in deeds of John it is evident that he lived in the northerly part of Gloucester in the area later set off as the town of Burrillville.

The will of John, made in 1797, mentions sons Samuel and Eber, giving to the latter his homestead farm, mentions daughters Thankful and Marcy as having had a considerable portion of their share, and names youngest daughters Mary and Sarah.

CHILDREN OF JOHN⁶ AND SARAH SMITH:³⁴⁵

- 1 THANKFUL⁷ SMITH, born Gloucester 11 Jan. 1763, married at Gloucester 15 June 1783 Thomas Lapham,³⁴⁶ of Solomon and Sylvia (Lapham) Lapham, b. 1761. The Lapham genealogy says that the children of Solomon Lapham (most of whom moved to New York State, some settling in Palmyra and some in Scipio) were CYNTHIA who m. Elijah Kemp; SALLY who m. Benjamin Waldren; AMLICK who m. Charlotte Bullard; SINAI who m. Nathaniel Tibbetts; CYRENE who m. Jesse Moss; ALVA who m. Laura Hanna; SIDNEY who m. Jane Macomber; ARTOCH who m. Eunice Sherman;

³⁴¹Arnold, *op. cit.*, 14:280. ³⁴²Gloucester Deeds, 13:243. ³⁴³*Ibid.*, 13:326.

³⁴⁴*Ibid.*, 13:430. ³⁴⁵Arnold, *op. cit.*, Gloucester Births, 3:61.

³⁴⁶*Ibid.*, Gloucester Marriages, 3:34.

- and WINSOR who m. Elmira Dunham.³⁴⁷
- 2 CYNATH SMITH, born 7 Sept. 1765; d. 11 January 1776.
 - 3 SAMUEL⁷ SMITH, b. 27 Dec. 1767; d. in Burrillville 14 Sept. 1813;³⁴⁸ m. 20 Jan. 1791 in Smithfield Urania Mowry of Stephen and Amey (Cook) Mowry of Smithfield,³⁴⁹ who was b. 26 Aug. 1772³⁵⁰ and d. 18 Sept. 1854 in her eighty-second year.³⁵¹ Samuel's will, made in Burrillville 2 Sept. 1813, named his brother-in-law, Rufus Smith, and his wife Urania as executors. Mentioned were his brother Eber; his sister Sarah, wife of Smith Mowry; his sister Thankful, wife of Thomas Lapham; his sister Marcy, wife of James Olney; and his sister Mary, wife of Rufus Smith. Bequests with no relationships expressed were made to Sally Steere, wife of Sepia, and to Paoli Steere, a minor; also to Mowry Taft. Both Samuel and Urania are buried in the woods back of their farm at Tarkiln, Burrillville.
 - 4 MARCY⁷ SMITH, b. 30 Nov. 1770; m. 3 July 1791 James Olney in Gloucester, Elder William Bowen officiating.³⁵² Her name is written Mercy in the Gloucester marriage records. Children recorded in Gloucester were MAHALA b. 15 Oct. 1791; NANCY b. 18 April 1795; and JOHN b. 1 May 1798.³⁵³
 - 5 EBER⁷ SMITH, b. 10 May 1773; m. 19 April 1795 in Gloucester, Elder William Bowen officiating, Amey Smith, daughter of Arnold and Lydia (Mathewson) Smith of Gloucester.³⁵⁴ They are buried on the old Smith family homestead in Burrillville later known as the Darling Smith place, the gravestone for Eber recording his death 26 May 1844 at seventy-one and that of his wife on 14 Dec. 1819 at forty-four. Among their children were OLNEY W. Smith who d. 22 Aug. 1854 in Smithfield at forty-eight;³⁵⁵ MARITTA who m. Martin A. Smith, of Jesse, in Burrillville 10 Oct. 1824;³⁵⁶ and NELSON who m. Clementine Smith, of

³⁴⁷Bertha Bortle Beal Aldridge, *Laphams in America* . . . , Victor, New York, 1953, p. 54. ³⁴⁸Gravestone. ³⁴⁹Arnold, *op. cit.*, Smithfield Marriages, 3:68.

³⁵⁰*Ibid.*, Smithfield Births, 3:106. ³⁵¹Gravestone.

³⁵²Arnold, *op. cit.*, Gloucester Marriages, 3:35. ³⁵³*Ibid.*, Gloucester Births, 3:57.

³⁵⁴*Ibid.*, Gloucester Marriages, 3:35. ³⁵⁵Smithfield Death Returns, 1854.

³⁵⁶Arnold, *op. cit.*, Burrillville Marriages, 3:13.

- Coomer, in Burrillville 5 Nov. 1839.³⁵⁷
- 6 ZENAS⁷ SMITH, b. 5 June 1775. No further record found for him.
 - 7 MARY⁷ SMITH, b. 30 July 1778; m. 17 March 1799 Rufus Smith Jr. in Gloucester, Elder William Bowen officiating.³⁵⁸ Rufus was the son of James and Drucilla (Steere) Smith and grandson of Major Rufus and Mercy (Taft) Smith.
 - 8 SARAH⁷ SMITH, b. 31 Jan. 1785; m. Smith Mowry of Gloucester, son of Gideon and Dorcas (Smith) Mowry; b. 25 Aug. 1781; d. 27 April 1852. Children of Mowry and Sarah were SCOTT W. b. 7 July 1808; MARY ANN b. 30 July 1810; BROWN b. 17 May 1812; and MARCELIA b. 1815, died 1818.³⁵⁹
- II SUSANNA⁶ SMITH, b. 20 Nov. 1742 in Gloucester; m. 13 May 1764 Seth Hunt of Gloucester, son of John Hunt.³⁶⁰ He married second in 1771 Anne Evans of Edward Evans of Gloucester.³⁶¹ No record of issue by first marriage.
- III MARY⁶ SMITH, b. 16 May 1745 in Gloucester; m. 10 March 1766 John Aldrich Jr. of Smithfield.³⁶² It was mentioned earlier that Mary, the widow of Benjamin,⁴ named in her will Welcome Aldrich, son of John, and a granddaughter, Amarancy Aldrich, who may have been the daughter of John and Mary, since she is not mentioned in the will of James Aldrich who married Alice Smith, sister of Mary. John and Mary Aldrich settled in Scituate, Rhode Island.
- 87 IV BENJAMIN⁶ SMITH JR. His birth was not recorded in Gloucester. He m. in Gloucester 1 Jan. 1775 Rebecca Lapham, daughter of Solomon and Sylvia (Lapham) Lapham, Jonathan Harris, justice, presiding.³⁶³ Benjamin Jr. died in Gloucester 27 Dec. 1781 leaving a will made 28 Nov. 1781 in which he named his brother John and the widow Rebecca as joint executors. The widow was left Benjamin's estate until their son Artemas came of age.³⁶⁴ The inventory was for more than 234 pounds.³⁶⁵ Rebecca m. (2) in Gloucester Elisha Brown, of David Brown of Pomfret, Connecticut,

³⁵⁷*Ibid.*, 3:14. ³⁵⁸*Ibid.*, Gloucester Marriages, 3:35.

³⁵⁹William A. Mowry, *Descendants of Nathaniel Mowry of Rhode Island* (Providence 1878), p. 126. ³⁶⁰Arnold, *op. cit.*, Gloucester Marriages, 3:34.

³⁶¹*Ibid.*, 3:21. ³⁶²*Ibid.*, 3:34. ³⁶³*Ibid.*

³⁶⁴Gloucester Wills, 2:200. ³⁶⁵Arnold, *op. cit.*, Gloucester Marriages, 3:11.

24 March 1784. Presumably Rebecca and her second husband moved from Gloucester since the Lapham genealogy states that all children of Solomon Lapham except a son William moved into the country (New York State).

CHILD OF BENJAMIN JR. AND REBECCA (LAPHAM) SMITH:

1 ARTEMAS⁷ SMITH. He married Lucina Mowry 19 Jan. 1800.³⁶⁶ She died in Gloucester in 1858 at seventy-seven years, ten months and ten days, and the Gloucester death records give her parents as David and Amey (Hawkins) Mowry.³⁶⁷ Births of the children of Artemas were not recorded, but two have been identified. Dr. Artemas Smith, Jr. of Rochester, New York, and Mrs. Abigail F. Stone, daughter of James Aldrich of Providence were married by the Rev. John F. Cleveland 8 June 1848.³⁶⁸ There is an administration granted for Artemas Smith 8 Nov. 1856 in Gates, Monroe County, New York, near Rochester. Whether this was Artemas Sr. or the son has not been learned, but Artemas Sr. does not appear in Gloucester death records, and Lucina was listed as a widow when she died in 1858. The marriage of Ariah L. Smith of Gloucester, son of Artemas and Lucina Smith, and Dephne Fernald of Blackstone, Massachusetts, daughter of Edmund and Betty, took place in Cumberland, Rhode Island, 23 Jan. 1850, the Rev. Luther D. Hill officiating.³⁶⁹

88 V DANIEL⁶ SMITH. His birth was not recorded, but he was identified in his father's will and shared in the distribution of the estate. Possibly he may have been the Daniel Smith who married Thankful Winsor of Rev. Joseph Winsor in Gloucester 16 March 1783.³⁷⁰ Both are buried on the old Smith farm known as the Darling Smith place in Burrillville. The gravestone for Daniel records his death 27 May 1835 in his eightieth year while that of his wife lists her death 30 Sept. 1840 in her eighty-first year. Beside them are the graves of two children, MARY who died 11 Oct. 1804 in her twenty-second year and DEBORAH who died young. Also buried in the same cemetery is Eber Smith, nephew of Daniel, and his wife Amey Smith. Daniel and Thankful were witnesses to

³⁶⁶*Ibid.*, 3:35. ³⁶⁷Gloucester Death Returns, 1858.

³⁶⁸Arnold, *op. cit.*, Providence Marriages, 2:174.

³⁶⁹*Ibid.*, Cumberland Marriages, 3:59. ³⁷⁰*Ibid.*, Gloucester Marriages, 3:34.

the quitclaim deeds of Elisha Killey of Smithfield to Samuel Smith 14 March 1798, which would appear to strengthen the assumption that this Daniel was the uncle of both Eber and Samuel Smith.

VI ALICE⁶ SMITH, born *circa* 1748, m. 18 Nov. 1766 in Gloucester, Jonathan Harris officiating, to James Aldrich.³⁷¹ James and Alice moved to Scituate. *The Providence Gazette* of 29 Dec. 1821 reports the death of James Aldrich at Scituate, aged seventy-four years, many years a senator in the General Assembly.³⁷² The death of Mrs. Alice Aldrich, widow of James, Esq., aged seventy-six years, appears in the *Gazette* of 10 March 1824.³⁷³ The will of James Aldrich probated in Scituate in 1821 named his wife Alice, sons BENJAMIN, OLIVER and JAMES, and a grandson Nehemiah. James Aldrich, Jr. of Scituate m. 5 April 1773 Asenath Steere, b. Smithfield, the daughter of Job and Desire (Smith) Steere and granddaughter of Jonah Steere and Abraham and Rebecca (Smith) Smith. The will of Job Steere probated in Scituate in 1804 made provision for his daughter, Asenath Aldrich, and her two children, Job Steere Aldrich and James Aldrich.³⁷⁴

VII CHRISTINA⁶ SMITH was named in the distribution of her father's estate as Chrysla. The *Providence Phenix* of 3 May 1823 reported the death of Christina, widow of Barzillai Fisher and daughter of the late Benjamin Smith Esq. of Gloucester, at Killingly, Connecticut, in her seventy-third year.³⁷⁵ *The Providence Gazette* of 21 Jan. 1813 carried the death notice of Barzillai Fisher of Killingly in his eighty-fourth year.³⁷⁶

44 ELIAS⁵ SMITH (*Capt. John*,⁴ *Benjamin*,³ *John*,² *John*¹), b. Gloucester 21 Sept. 1722; d. in Smithfield 15 Dec. 1760; m. in Gloucester 30 Oct. 1745 Mary Sessions of Pomfret, Connecticut.³⁷⁷ *History of Woodstock* records the birth of Mary Sessions at Pomfret 4 Aug. 1724, the daughter of Lt. Nathaniel and Joanna (Corbin) Sessions.³⁷⁸

³⁷¹*Ibid.*, 3:5. ³⁷²*Ibid.*, 13:108. ³⁷³*Ibid.*

³⁷⁴James P. Root, *Steere Genealogy, a Record of the Descendants of John Steere* (Cambridge 1899), p. 99. ³⁷⁵Arnold, *op. cit.*, 18:419. ³⁷⁶*Ibid.*, 13:385.

³⁷⁷Bible record owned by the late Mr. John B. Deake of Central Falls, quoted in the Root manuscript.

³⁷⁸Clarence W. Bowen and others, *The History of Woodstock, Connecticut...* (Norwood and Worcester, 1926-1943), 8:267.

In addition to reporting her marriage to Elias Smith, it lists her second marriage on 29 July 1761 to Samuel Ballou, son of James and Susanna (Whitman) Ballou, at Smithfield as his second wife and as a widow, her third marriage 8 May 1767 at Smithfield as the second wife of Hezekiah Sprague, who was lost at sea in 1793.

In Superior Court, Providence, 22 Oct. 1760, Mary Smith, wife of Elias of Gloucester, charged that her husband had eloped with one Abigail Herendeen and was granted a divorce.³⁷⁹

John Smith of Gloucester deeded to his son Elias Smith one hundred ten acres and a dwelling house "where he now lives," abutting Benjamin Smith, 2 Feb. 1748.³⁸⁰ On 26 Nov. 1753 Elias Smith of Gloucester for 800 pounds conveyed to Benjamin Smith of Gloucester forty-two acres, "the homestead where I dwell," abutting Benjamin Smith,³⁸¹ and on 20 May 1754 Elias also conveyed to Benjamin seventy acres, the south part of the farm "where I now dwell," abutting Capt. John Smith and the country road.³⁸²

It would appear that Elias later moved to Smithfield, for Smithfield probate records his death 16 Dec. 1760, intestate, and a son Daniel was named administrator.³⁸³ It could be assumed that Daniel would have had to be twenty-one to be appointed, raising the question whether he was a son by an earlier marriage, but examination of the original Smithfield record gives the appointment "with the assistance of Benjamin Smith, Esq., of Gloucester," no doubt the uncle of Daniel who aided because Daniel was a minor.

CHILDREN OF ELIAS⁵ SMITH:

89 I DANIEL⁶ SMITH. There were numerous Daniel Smiths in Smithfield.

II JOANNA⁶ SMITH, b. in Gloucester 15 July 1747; m. 9 June 1771 Daniel Mowry 3rd of Gloucester who d. 4 Nov. 1842. Joanna d. 10 Oct. 1813.³⁸⁴

CHILDREN OF DANIEL AND JOANNA⁶ (SMITH) MOWRY:

1 NATHANIEL MOWRY, b. 27 Oct. 1771; d. 1815; m. Martha

Tucker.

2 ANNA Mowry, b. 5 Feb. 1775; d. 19 Jan. 1851; m. 7 May 1792 David Tucker, of Israel and Abigail, b. 24 Jan. 1767; d. 13 Sept. 1815.

3 SABRA Mowry. She may have married Levi Brown.

4 SESSIONS Mowry married a daughter of Esek Brown and had a daughter, Abby Brown, who married Edward Evans.

5 ABBY Mowry married (1) Andrew Smith and (2) — Eddy.

6 — Mowry m. Sayles Appleby.

90 III AHOLIAB⁶ SMITH, b. 15 July 1749; d. 13 Sept. 1840; m. at Gloucester 25 Aug. 1766 Lydia, daughter of Eleazer and Phebe (Lapham) Ballou, who was b. 8 Dec. 1750 and d. 29 April 1830. Aholiab and his family removed from Gloucester to Richmond, New Hampshire, and then to Hartford, Washington County, New York, and later to Gouverneur, New York.³⁸⁵

CHILDREN OF AHOLIAB⁶ AND LYDIA SMITH:

1 MARY⁷ SMITH, b. 2 Nov. 1766.

2 ELLAS⁷ (Elias) SMITH, b. 24 Sept. 1771. A Dr. Elias Smith is buried in North Burial Ground, Providence, with death recorded 1864 at 77 years.

3 ELEAZER⁷ SMITH, b. 24 Sept. 1771.

4 PHEBE⁷ SMITH, b. after 20 April 1744.

5 PRUDENCE⁷ SMITH, b. 25 Aug. 1776.

6 RHODA⁷ SMITH, b. 24 May 1778.

7 BENJAMIN⁷ SMITH, b. 21 Mar. 1781; d. in 1826; m. Mary Mitchell. He was a pioneer at Little Bow, Gouverneur, New York, where he purchased a large tract in 1807.

8 WILLARD⁷ SMITH, b. 27 Feb. 1784.

9 HANNAH⁷ SMITH, b. Richmond, New Hampshire, 27 June 1785; m. Aaron Atwood of Timothy.

The Root manuscript states that Elias Smith had three sons and one daughter. If so, one son has not been identified.

³⁸⁵Smith notes at Elmwood Library, Providence; also *The Compendium of American Genealogy* (Chicago, 1942), V. 7, p. 402.

³⁷⁹Gloucester Deeds, 4:66. ³⁸⁰*Ibid.*, 3:265. ³⁸¹*Ibid.*, 3:302.

³⁸²*Ibid.*, 3:420. ³⁸³Smithfield Council and Probate Book, 2:356, 358.

³⁸⁴William A. Mowry, *Descendants of John Mowry of Rhode Island* (Providence, 1909), p. 245-7.

BOOK REVIEWS

Independent Historical Societies: An Enquiry into their Research and Publication Functions and their Financial Future, by Walter Muir Whitehill. (Boston, Harvard University Press, 1962, 577 pp., \$12.50)

Dr. Whitehill, the director of the Boston Athenaeum, has written a most frustrating and disappointing book. The book lacks focus and it is never quite clear why he wrote it. He did not write a history of the historical society in America although he included such detailed accounts of a few organizations that that almost appears to be his purpose. He did not provide a complete survey of the contemporary historical society scene although he has written about enough organizations to suggest such a goal. He has not analyzed the financial prospects of the independent historical society, one of the ostensible reasons for writing the book, although he desultorily considered the problem on occasion. Nor has he straightforwardly set forth the proper role of the historical society although he did editorialize on the topic frequently.

The title is certainly misleading. Although the first ten chapters are devoted to a description of the principal independent societies ("independent" is never clearly defined though it seems to mean those that do not receive some form of governmental support), almost half of the 577 pages are devoted to examining state-supported historical organizations, historical restorations, state archival programs, university libraries, professional historical associations, and genealogical societies. Organizations seem to have been included and excluded almost capriciously. Some organizations were simply ignored. For instance, Dr. Whitehill made no mention of the independent Historical Society of Michigan or the state-supported Michigan Historical Commission. Moving east, where his coverage is better, he quite properly included a detailed account of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. But then, since he included other "dependent" organizations, why did he ignore the state-supported Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission? Surely that state organization was not omitted because it had failed to serve either the scholar or the public. Nor could it have been neglected because of its size for in 1958 it had a total budget that was approximately four times that of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania and its 1957-59 budget for research, publications and the collecting and preserving of historical records was substantially larger than the entire 1958 budget of its sister institution. The inadequate coverage of more localized organizations such as city and county historical societies can be attributed to lack of space.

Dr. Whitehill never comes to grips with the problem of how the independent historical society is to achieve financial vitality or even viability. Yet the study arose from concern over the financial crises that existed in many of the older independent historical societies. The announced purpose of the Council on Library Resources, which subsidized the research, was "the research and publication functions and the financial future of the independent historical

societies." He says that "where ideas exist, money somehow gets found for useful enterprises" but that "all independent historical societies spend too much of their time piecing their rags together." He concludes that the basic format of the independent historical society is sound despite an almost universal pattern of underpaid and inadequate staffs combined with curtailed publication and purchase programs. He rejects the notion that societies might improve their financial situation by broadening their membership base or by expanding their program to appeal to a wider public since such activities cost, he claims, more than they produce. He questions the wisdom of seeking governmental aid, as he fears controls are always implicit in such financial assistance. He advances the hardly novel suggestion that large private and foundation gifts would do much to alleviate this unhappy situation.

It often appears that Dr. Whitehill's chief purpose in writing this book was to debate the proper role of the historical society. He obviously feels that it is not possible to serve both the scholar and the public well, either individually or at the same time, and that the funds spent for the edification of the public should have been used for purely scholarly purposes. Thus, the proper role for a private historical agency becomes publication, the collection and preservation of books, manuscripts and related historical materials, and little more. He deprecates efforts to broaden the base of historic interest through activities such as junior historical societies, museums, historical restoration and related activities which have in many areas proven so successful in marshaling popular and legislative support. Yet the broadly based, democratically conceived historical societies such as the State Historical Society of Wisconsin (which is quite fully, if not always sympathetically or even fairly, covered) have been the most successful in recent years in securing funds to support their various activities, and it would be a rash soul who would claim that organizations such as the Wisconsin, Minnesota or Ohio historical societies have been remiss in tending to the needs of the scholar.

Yet, for all its many faults, this is still a useful book. It is frequently even an interesting one. Unfortunately, sprightly and charming passages are interspersed with moralizing of the sort most often found in turn-of-the-century county histories. It would have been a better book if his editor had insisted that it be shorter and more tightly organized. A smattering of minor errors detracts from its value as a reference volume. The discerning and informed reader will however find it the most useful single compilation of many facts about the historical society in America. Throughout, Dr. Whitehill has presented a consistent, if never clearly expressed, statement of the proper role of a historical society, be it independent or publicly supported. Unfortunately, I fear, it is not a role that is calculated to solve the financial problems that have plagued the independent historical society and that prompted the writing of this book. Neither is it a role that will best serve either the scholar or the public.

Charles V. Chapin and the Public Health Movement, by James H. Cassedy, Harvard University Press, Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1962, 310 p., \$5.75.

This small but interesting and valuable book was the substance of Doctor Cassedy's Ph.D. thesis at Harvard. The author, who specializes in American medical history, is currently the executive secretary of the new History of the Life Sciences Study Section, National Institutes of Health of the United States Public Health Service. While working on his thesis, Cassedy became a familiar figure at Brown University, at The Rhode Island Historical Society, and particularly at the Rhode Island Medical Society Library, where the bulk of the Chapin papers are preserved.

Charles Value Chapin's life and career were so intimately intertwined with the growth of the public health movement, both on the local stage and worldwide, that the dual title of the biography, *Charles V. Chapin and the Public Health Movement*, has significance and validity.

Chapin was graduated from Brown University in 1876. The college then "was as yet uninfluenced by the modern concept of the university" and "was little more than a classical academy." Choosing medicine as a career, he studied for a year at the College of Physicians and Surgeons in New York, where Francis Delafield and Abraham Jacobi were on the faculty. He then transferred to Bellevue Hospital Medical College and sat at the feet of the Austin Flints, Senior and Junior, and Edward G. Janeway. William Crawford Gorgas, another giant of the public health movement, was in his class. His internship was at Bellevue, where the great William H. Welch, later of Johns Hopkins, set up the first laboratory in America for the teaching of microscopic pathology. During his internship, Chapin participated in the first antiseptic operation at Bellevue. These were stimulating times indeed. He returned to Providence during the closing months of 1880 to enter private practice. In June of 1880 he had won the first of two Fiske Fund prizes of the Rhode Island Medical Society.

During his early years in Providence Chapin was part-time pathologist and librarian at the Rhode Island Hospital, and taught physiology at Brown University. Private practice, however, was neither congenial nor profitable. In 1883 he received the gratifying news that he had been elected Superintendent of Health of the City of Providence. The department he took over was not without reputation. He succeeded Doctor Edwin M. Snow, who had organized the department in 1855 (a decade before that of New York City) and had played a leading role in initiating the public health movement in America.

The start of Chapin's public health career was coincident with the dawning of the age of bacteriology. Koch in 1882 had announced the isolation of the tubercle bacillus and, soon after, the *comma bacillus* of cholera. Pasteur had by 1882 developed inoculation for fowl cholera, anthrax, and swine erysipelas, and in 1885 had successfully inoculated a boy bitten by a rabid dog. In 1882 at the Rhode Island Hospital Chapin had started the first bacteriological studies in Rhode Island. Carrying this work over to this new department, Chapin set the tone for scientific public health work in Providence.

In the forty-seven years of his stewardship of the Health Department Chapin was responsible for the introduction of many innovations. His greatest contri-

bution to the science of communicable disease control was the confirmation of the importance of contact in infectious disease dissemination rather than the old vague concept of air-borne contagion. Coincident with this was his bold espousal of concurrent disinfection, and his courageous abandonment of fumigation and terminal disinfection, which he looked upon as fetishes.

Philosopher as well as scientist, Chapin wrote prophetically in 1928:

The science which can point to its achievement against smallpox, malaria, yellow fever, diphtheria, typhoid and typhus fevers, tuberculosis, and a score of other diseases, as well as to a rapid lengthening of human life, and especially to the saving of vast numbers of infants from early deaths, need not be ashamed to acknowledge that some experiments have failed; neither should it hesitate to admit that we are still merely picking up pebbles on the shore of the sea of knowledge, and that what is not known about maintaining and perfecting the health of mankind is far greater than what is known. The opportunities for discovery are as great as before the days of Harvey, Pasteur and Lister.

Chapin early showed a sustained interest in local and medical history. In 1902 he wrote the chapter on "Epidemics and Medical Institutions" for Edward Field's three-volume history of Rhode Island, in 1916 *Sixty Years of the Providence Health Department*, in 1921 the *History of State and Municipal Control of Disease*, and in 1925 *A History of Rhode Island Ferries 1640-1923*, with his wife Anna. His published bibliography contains one hundred thirty-three separate items, to which Cassedy adds forty reviews, editorials, and other ephemeral works.

For many years he lectured in hygiene at the Harvard Medical School and later in the new Harvard School of Public Health. He received many honors—local, national, and international—both before and after his retirement. His monument in his native city is the Charles V. Chapin Hospital, founded in 1910 as the Providence City Hospital, the first in America to apply aseptic nursing techniques, which he had developed. The success of the principles which he taught has rendered this type of specialized institution all but obsolete. Annually the City of Providence and the Rhode Island Medical Society jointly sponsor an oration in his honor and award a medal to the orator, an outstanding physician or scientist who has contributed substantially to progress in public health.

This reviewer can recommend to all who are interested in health matters, in medical history, or in local history, this well-written and authoritative book.
Providence

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